

Call for Expression of Interest

Join the CUSP thematic Working Groups on science diplomacy

What are the CUSP thematic Working Groups?

The [Consolidating European Science Diplomacy](#) (CUSP) project invites researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and other professionals working at the intersection of science, technology, policy, and international relations to apply to one of its ten thematic [Working Groups](#) (WGs).

Each WG is expected to bring together approximately 20–30 members from the European science diplomacy community. Each group will meet several times online during the duration of the project and will have one on-site meeting.

Together, these WGs will serve as the project's main collaborative mechanism for developing recommendations, exchanging expertise, and fostering cooperation around key priorities of the European Framework for Science Diplomacy. Each WG will be coordinated by one CUSP consortium partner.

Find out more about the ten working groups on [our website](#).

Table 1. CUSP thematic Working Groups

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WG	Theme	WG coordinator
01	Science Diplomacy for Geopolitical Challenges and Responsible International Cooperation	Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS)
02	Science Diplomacy and Science Advice for the Global Commons	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
03	Innovation and Tech Diplomacy	DLR Project Management Agency
04	Science Diplomacy in Government: Roles, Responsibilities and Coordination	Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT)
05	Science Diplomacy, Alumni Networks, Refugee Researchers and Diaspora Engagement	Marie Curie Alumni Association (MCAA)
06	Cultural and Arts-based Science Diplomacy	Centre for Social Innovation (ZSI)
07	Science Diplomacy and Large Research Infrastructures	Charles University (CU)
08	One Health and Science Diplomacy	DLR Project Management Agency
09	Impact Assessment of Science Diplomacy Actions	Aarhus University (AU)
10	Multilingualism and Communicating Science Diplomacy to the Public	CIHEAM Bari

Applicants may be selected for **one WG only**, as membership in multiple WGs is not foreseen, although exceptions may apply. However, applicants may apply for up to three WGs and will be asked to indicate their order of preference.

Why should you participate?

The CUSP thematic Working Groups offer members the opportunity to **actively contribute to the implementation of the Council Recommendation on a European Union framework for science diplomacy and to help shape the further development of science diplomacy in Europe and beyond**.

The WGs are dedicated spaces to exchange with professionals who share similar interests, challenges, and questions, where they can learn from different perspectives and good

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practices, expand professional networks, and jointly develop ideas and recommendations that can advance their respective thematic area.

Bringing together different forms of expertise and professional experience, the WGs will enable sustained exchange, co-creation and collaboration, and translate these exchanges into concrete outputs for the wider science diplomacy community.

As a member, you are offered the opportunity to:

- Actively shape the further development of science diplomacy in Europe and beyond;
- Exchange and network with professionals from different countries, sectors, and disciplines through an introductory online meeting between February and March 2027 and approximately eight online WG meetings until February 2029;
- Participate in one in-person thematic workshop/meeting, hosted by the WG coordinator or organised in connection with a relevant science diplomacy event;
- Collaborate continuously through the Science Diplomacy Hub and contribute to the co-development of thematic outputs for public dissemination, such as policy briefs, recommendations, reports, thematic notes, consultation inputs, presentations or webinars; and
- Contribute, where relevant, to wider CUSP activities and events, including the CUSP Conference in June 2028.

WG membership is **not remunerated**.

What does WG membership involve?

WG members contribute their expertise, professional experience, perspectives, and active engagement. They can benefit from international exchange, expand their network, and help shape the future of science diplomacy. The success of the WGs depends on sustained participation throughout their duration.

Members are expected to:

- Participate regularly in WG meetings and activities, including online meetings and, where possible, the in-person thematic workshop, and actively contribute to discussions, collaborative activities, and interdisciplinary, cross-sectoral, and international exchange;

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- Share relevant thematic knowledge, evidence, and practical experience, and help identify emerging issues, developments and priorities relevant to the WG;
- Participate in, propose, or lead specific tasks or subgroups where relevant, and contribute to research, mapping or consultation activities where appropriate;
- Contribute to the co-creation of thematic outputs, including by reviewing and commenting on draft documents;
- Support peer exchange and mutual learning; and
- Help disseminate WG activities and outputs through their professional networks.

Membership in the WG is free.

CUSP has limited funding available to support the participation of approximately 20 WG members in the in-person thematic meeting or workshop. Further information on eligibility and reimbursement arrangements will be communicated to the selected WG members.

Who can apply?

We welcome applications from individuals with relevant expertise or professional experience related to the thematic scope of one or more WGs. Applications from different career stages, professional backgrounds, disciplines, sectors, countries, and regions are encouraged.

Applicants may come from, among others:

- Universities and research organisations;
- National, regional or local governments and public administrations;
- Foreign ministries and diplomatic services;
- European and international organisations;
- Research funding and research-performing organisations;
- Civil society and non-governmental organisations;
- Science academies and professional associations;
- Private-sector organisations;
- Science diplomacy networks and initiatives; and
- Other organisations or professional communities relevant to the respective WG theme.

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Selection criteria

Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria:

1. **Thematic expertise and experience:** Demonstrated knowledge, professional experience, research expertise or practice-based expertise relevant to the selected WG.
2. **Relevance to science diplomacy:** Demonstrated connection between the applicant's expertise or professional activities and science diplomacy, international science and technology cooperation, science policy, diplomacy, or related fields.
3. **Potential contribution to the WG:** Clarity and relevance of the applicant's proposed contribution, including specific knowledge, experience, perspectives, cases, networks, or other resources they can bring to the WG.
4. **Motivation and commitment:** Demonstrated motivation to contribute actively and willingness to participate throughout the WG period until February 2029, including meetings, collaborative work, and the preparation of outputs.
5. **Complementarity and diversity of the WG:** The final composition of each WG will seek to achieve a balanced mix of expertise and perspectives. This includes consideration of disciplinary and professional backgrounds, sectors, career stages, geographic representation, gender balance, and other dimensions relevant to the respective theme.

Application process

To apply, you must first be registered as a member of the [Science Diplomacy Hub](#) and complete your community profile.

Please make sure that your Science Diplomacy Hub community profile is completed before submitting your application through the Hub. Applications can only be considered if the relevant profile information is complete.

1. Register as a member of the [Science Diplomacy Hub](#) and complete your community profile. Applications can only be considered if the profile is complete.
2. Open the [WG application form](#) in "[Calls and Surveys](#)".
3. Select up to three WGs and rank them by preference.

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4. For each WG, explain how you would like to contribute and your motivation for taking part.
5. Confirm your availability for the full WG period and upload your CV.
6. Submit your application through the Hub by **11 November 2026**.

Applications will be assessed by selection committee and a proposed composition for each WG will be submitted to the **CUSP Advisory Board** for consultation. Applicants will subsequently be informed of the outcome of the selection process.

Table 2. Timeline

Date	Stage
11 November 2026	Application deadline
January 2027	WG membership announcement
February – March 2027	First online meetings

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